GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2116
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012
PRODUCTION OF BIO DIESEL
Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bio-diesel is not produced commercially for blending with diesel in the country due to non-availability of feed-stock;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy undertook a study to assess the status of Jatropha plantations undertaken on about 9.28 lakh hectares of wastelands in nine States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh,Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh,Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. It was found that the mortality of plantations was high and seed yields and oil contents were very low.

(c): The Government has notified the National Policy on Biofuels in December, 2009 which has laid down guidelines for promotion of production and utilization of bio-diesel for blending with high speed diesel.The main components of the Biofuels Policy regarding bio-diesel are as follows:

Bio-diesel production will be taken up from non-edible oil seeds in waste/degraded/marginal lands.

Major thrust on research, development and demonstration with focus on plantations, processing and production of Biofuels;

Minimum Purchase Price for purchase of Bio-diesel with periodic revision to be fixed;

Further, research on development and cultivation of improved varieties of Jatropha for increasing the production of bio-diesel has been taken up under projects funded by the Ministries of Agriculture, New and Renewable Energy and Science & Technology.